

09/171377

Case 6065

#5/Pne Andt
A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the matter of

U.S. National Phase Entry
Under 35 USC 371 from
the International Application of
BOHLEN, David Scott et al
Int'l Application No. PCT/US97/06484
Filed in the RO/US on 16 April 1997
Entitled: *High Density Detergent-Making Process
Using A High Active Surfactant Paste
Having Improved Stability*

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EM0321073604S

Date of Deposit 16 October 1998

I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Donna L. Gutt

Name

Donna L. Gutt

Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Before computing the fees for entering the captioned International Application into the U.S. National Phase, please enter the following amendments IN THE CLAIMS:

- * In Claim 1 please replace the phrase "characterized by" with --comprising--.
- * In Claim 3 please replace the phrase "claims 1-2" with --Claim 1--.
- * In Claim 4 please replace the phrase "claims 1-3" with --Claim 1--.
- * In Claim 5 please replace the phrase "claims 1-4" with --Claim 1--. Also, please replace the phrase "characterized by" with --comprising--.
- * In Claim 6 please replace the phrase "claims 1-5" with --Claim 1--.
- * In Claim 7 please replace the phrase "claims 1-6" with --Claim 1--.
- * In Claim 8 please replace the phrase "claims 1-7" with --Claim 1--.
- * In Claim 9 please replace the phrase "claims 1-8" with --Claim 1--.
- * In Claim 10 please replace the phrase "claims 1-9" with --Claim 1--. Also, please replace the phrase "characterized by" with --comprising--.

✓ Please add the following new claims:

11. A process for preparing detergent agglomerates comprising the steps of:
(a) providing a non-linear viscoelastic surfactant paste including, by weight of said surfactant paste, from about 70% to 80% of a mixture of C₁₄-15 alkyl sulfate surfactant and C₁₂-13 linear alkylbenzene sulfonate surfactant, from about 15% to about 20% of water, from about 2% to about 8% of polyethylene glycol and from about 0.5% to about 1% of sodium hydroxide such that the pH of said surfactant paste is at least about 11;

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